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Justin Luk is one of the creators behind Astervoid 2000.
JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

INCOMING

Calgary-made game hits Steam **metroNEWS**

PC, Alberta parties mulling a merger

POLITICS

Presidents of both factions open to idea in near future


Josie Lukey
For Metro | Calgary

A new political party merger is percolating in Alberta — and no, it's not the "unite Alberta" or "unite-the-right" movement.

Members of both the PC Party and Alberta Party have said they wouldn't be opposed to a merger, and according to the presidents of both parties, neither would they.

Katherine O'Neill, PC Party president, said she started hearing about a possible merge with the Alberta Party once the PCs lost the provincial election.

"It wasn't surprising there was part of our membership that said, 'If you're going to do a merger, it should be with the centre,'" said O'Neill.

Currently, she said, the party is focused on the ongoing leadership race, and a merger wouldn't be up for real discussion until mid-2017. At that point, O'Neill explained, the PC Party will have a new

leader and will be sending a signal about how they see themselves moving forward.

Alberta Party president Pat Cochrane said she's heard talk of a merger among members of her party but added there's been no official contact with the PC Party.

Cochrane also said the Alberta Party and Alberta Liberal Party are still talking. In the past, the Alberta Party was open to merging with the Liberals, who rejected the proposal.

"If you're a centrist, the political party label isn't such an issue. It's how do we make sure that we don't have extremes take over the province," said Cochrane.

Lori Williams, political-science professor at Mount Royal University, said she understands there's an appetite for an alternative centre party, and if the conservative party is in danger of losing its centrist position, then she can understand seeking alternative solutions.

"From the time that Donna Kennedy-Glans left the leadership race saying there needed to be a voice in the centre, I think people have been looking for what that voice might be," said Williams.

But Williams said if PC leadership candidate Jason Kenney wins, his plans to merge the PCs and the Wildrose means there won't be much traction for an Alberta Party merger.

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Alberta pipeline reactions

A day after Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced cabinet approval of the Trans Mountain pipeline and as Premier Rachel Notley heads to B.C. to calm backlash against the decision, we take the pulse of the province with the most to gain from the decision.

METRO

I feel like Alberta made a huge strategic error in wasting so much time talking and pushing for pipelines.

Mike Hudema, Greenpeace Canada spokesperson, Edmonton



It is noteworthy that Premier Notley had nothing to say about First Nations approval or inclusion in the process.

Joseph Jobin, COO, Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta, Edmonton



This is just the shot in the arm that we needed. The approvals will mean tens of thousands of new jobs in Alberta.

Janet Riopel, president, Edmonton Chamber of Commerce

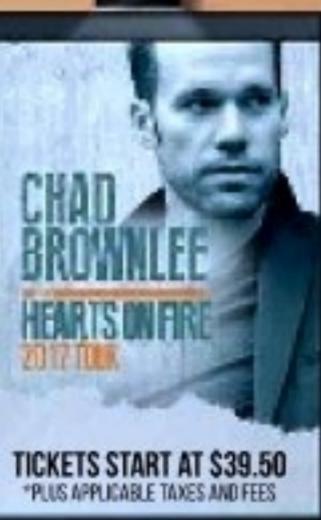
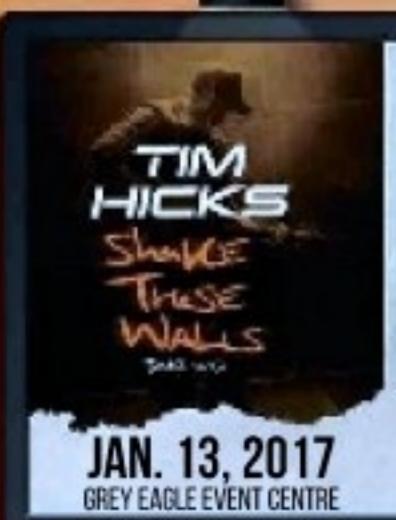
I think what happened is good.... He made the oilpatch happy by approving the two and made the other people happy by not approving one.

Stan Gervais, Shawcor oilpatch worker, Nisku



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Ian Anderson, president, Kinder Morgan Canada, Calgary



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The CPS internal survey indicated rising numbers of dissatisfaction amongst the rank and file. cps

Survey highlights issues in the force

POLICE

Commission 'not capable' of tackling bullies, discrimination

 **Lucie Edwardson**
Metro | Calgary

Issues of bullying, harassment and dissatisfaction in the Calgary Police Service have been under the spotlight recently since the public release of a 2013 workplace review, and reiterated in the 2016 internal member satisfaction survey released publicly Tuesday.

Marlene Hope said after listening to senior leadership of the Calgary Police Service speak to the Calgary Police Commission Tuesday about ongoing human resource issues, she's feeling a little defeated.

"I don't think they're capable of doing this," said the former CPS detective who has acted as a spokesperson for

members who have had negative experiences in the force.

"It isn't personal, they just can't do what needs to be done to bring about transformational change." On Tuesday, current CPS member Kim Pringle gave the commission her opinion about the role senior management has played in these issues.

"Culture is labeling bullying and harassment and was most recently demonstrated through membership feedback in survey," she said.

The survey found that 47 per cent of respondents disagreed that CPS takes appropriate action in response to incidents of harassment, discrimination and bullying. It also found that 48 per cent disagreed that CPS has an effective process for dealing with the latter and that 53 per cent disagreed that corporate culture is based upon respectful leadership at all levels.

"In fact retaliation and participation in those things comes directly from leadership.

To put it bluntly, the membership working under these

47%

Percentage of survey respondents who disagreed that CPS takes appropriate action when responding to incidents of harassment, bullying and discrimination.

policies aren't buying into what the executive is selling," said Pringle. "It's the enforcement and accountability piece that's missing for a lot of us. A lot of these people that are the bullies are in leadership."

Pringle said things that leadership have presented to the commission as positives — such as the 81 per cent increase in workplace assessment completions — actually don't live up to the hype.

"These are supervisors pushing through assessments that are completely without substance just to get them in for deadline so they don't get any negative paperwork," she said.

LOTTO MAX

Alberta woman 'surprised' after scooping \$50M jackpot

An Alberta woman from a farming village of less than 500 people says she was "surprised and stressed" when she found out she'd won a \$50-million Lotto Max jackpot.

Lois Olsen of Irma, about 180 kilometres southeast of Edmonton, says she discovered her win the day after the Nov. 11 draw. Olsen, a long-time resident, bought the lucky quick-pick ticket at the Irma Co-op store.

It was there, while buying groceries, that she found out she

was a multi-millionaire. "I'm going to give some of the money to my family," she said Tuesday as she picked up her cheque at the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission office in St. Albert. "I have my kids, my grandkids, my great-grandkids. It will help my entire family."

Olsen has a few plans of her own, though. "I'm thinking of buying a new SUV and I'm hoping to do some travelling," she said. "I used to travel a lot and I'd like to do a little more now."

THE CANADIAN PRESS


I'm going to give some of the money to my family.
Lois Olsen

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NEW SCHOOLS

No plans for cash saved on builds: Eggen

Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Alberta's education minister recently announced a surprising trend he's seen across the province when it comes to new school builds — they're coming in under budget.

Superintendent of facilities and environment for the Calgary Board of Education Dany

Breton said this is a trend that corresponds with their experience, with projects coming in approximately 10 per cent below initial estimates.

But, according to Education Minister David Eggen there aren't any current plans for the cash that was slated for the builds but isn't being used.

"It is wonderful to see that many of our school bids across the province are coming in lower than we originally budgeted

for. It certainly indicates it is a great time to be building schools in our province," he said.

"As for where the money that we're saving on lower construction costs may go, I can't speculate on how it will be spent, but we will have more to share about new school projects in the 2017 budget when it's released."

Breton said the CBE is still working on delivering 27 new

school builds, 10 of which opened in September and 10 of which are expected to open in the new year, and another seven with rolling opening dates in coming years.

But, Breton said the CBE will nonetheless see their school utilization rates back up at 90 per cent by 2021. He said the CBE's preference would be to have "modest, but predictable ongoing new school announcements."



Drivers have to make their way through at least two roundabouts to navigate the Flanders Interchange off Crowchild Trail. Officials say traffic is flowing smoothly. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Drivers take new system in stride

ROADS

Minimal issues at Flanders Interchange, city says

Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

end. Stevens noted that would happen sometime this week.

Although the city wasn't aware of any problems, a call to CPS traffic division revealed there had been at least two minor collisions that they were aware of in their system. A CPS spokesperson added that that number could change as data comes in.

Stevens said there were "a couple" of 311 complaints specifically about confusion at the roundabouts, but added that number was minimal.

"We have actually about 1,000 roundabouts in the city and they're becoming more and more popular," she said. "As people get used to driving them, they become a bit more natural for folks."

She said they're being used in place of traffic signals, and they can improve flow of the traffic.

Area Coun. Brian Pincott said there have been no complaints to his office that he's aware of.

"I have heard from people that (directions are) clear. Once you go through it the first time, you go, 'OK, I see how this works.'"

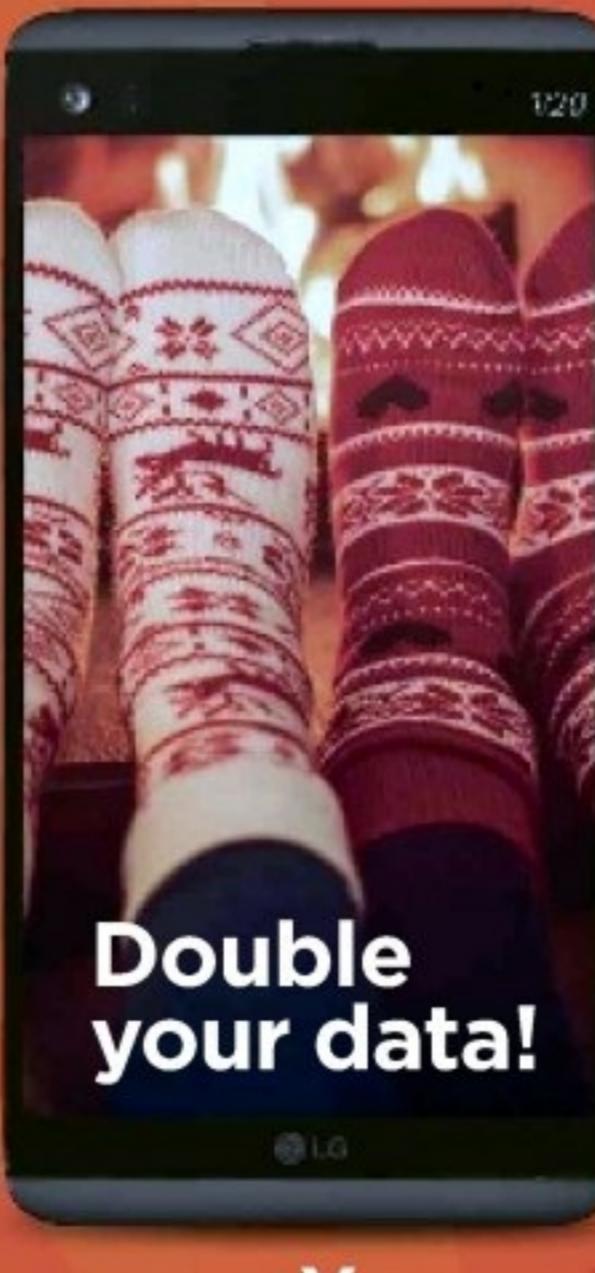
He added that it seems to be helping traffic flow in the area too.

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Uber general manager Ramit Kar said they have hundreds of drivers ready to go. HELEN PIKE/METRO

Uber revs up for second lap of city

RIDESHARING

Calgary launch date set ahead of lifting court injunction

Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

It's got to be the most awaited sequel since the last Godfather, or Finding Dory.

On Wednesday, Uber gathered reporters outside of the Calgary Municipal Building for an "exciting announcement." Pending the court ordered injunction is lifted, they will resume operations on Dec. 6.

"We expect to have quite a few drivers, to have a reliable experience, right on day one," said Uber Alberta general manager Ramit Kar. "We're likely going to open up Calgary and surrounding areas, as soon as we begin operations."

That means behind the scenes, administration's legal

team and Uber's lawyers will have to agree to sit down and talk costs. For the city, building up their case and fighting for an injunction while Uber operated illegally, cost a ballpark \$21,000 — money the city wants to get back for their cover operation with third-party companies: Xpera Risk Mitigation and Investigation, Graziano Investigation Services and MDSI.

"What we're talking about in terms of the injunction costs, obviously we had a pretty significant operation when we charged the drivers a year ago," said Ryan Jestic, director of Calgary Community Standards. "Our plan is we would ask for those charges to be covered by Uber — so the costs of filing the injunction and our operation."

But they won't hold up the rideshare giant's operation to do so. According to Jestic, the city has already agreed to lift the injunction, so long as Uber

is willing to talk costs.

Kar would only add that Uber is in discussions on "all legal matters" with the city.

According to the city, the injunction could be lifted within days, making Uber's plans to operate above bar.

"We'll continue discussions, but I'm optimistic everything will work out by next Tuesday," said Kar.

Kenneth Javaid, a driver Uber brought to the press conference, said he had been laid off from his oil and gas work. He worked for Uber during the six weeks they were operating illegally.

"Our job is just pick up and drop off, no cash or machine involved," Javaid said. He noted if Trudeau's pipeline announcement means more oil and gas jobs, he'd gladly take a full-time job, but continue to work for Uber on the side. "I'm really happy to do this job."

We expect to have quite a few drivers, to have a reliable experience on day one. Ramit Kar, Uber

COMPETITORS' RESPONSE

Taxi bodies have questions but not all can be answered

Although Uber is keeping the exact number of drivers ready to operate close to their chest, the city said between 200 and 300 drivers are primed to take to the streets.

That's compared to the 222 taxi plates council approved on Monday, in the industry's attempt to compete with the ride-share giant.

Still, the taxi industry is crying foul over the new Uber-friendly bylaw rules, lobbying the city to

seek all costs, even lost revenue from drivers, out of the ridesharing company's deep pockets.

Associated Cab president Roger Richard even went so far as to accost Ryan Jestic, director of Calgary Community Standards, while he was being interviewed on television.

"Are they going to pay the drivers' losses too?" asked Richard. "You're talking about the city portion ... how about the business that taxi and limo drivers lost?"

Jestic said it's a good question, but he doesn't have the answer, as he's not the city's legal expert.

And does Uber think they were given special privileges?

"We've been in continuing conversations for the better part of two years with city council, the mayor's office, and administration," said Uber's Ramit Kar. "Quite frankly, the changes that were approved are pretty much the standard that's been found across Canada." HELEN PIKE/METRO

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Committee says judge should lose job

JUDICIAL REVIEW

Robin Camp's remarks about complainant 'destructive'

A Canadian Judicial Council committee says a judge's apology for asking a sexual assault complainant why she couldn't keep her knees together doesn't offset the

damage done and Robin Camp should lose his job.

"We conclude that Justice Camp's conduct is so manifestly and profoundly destructive of the concept of the impartiality, integrity and independence of the judicial role that public confidence is sufficiently undermined to render the judge incapable of executing the judicial office," the five-member panel wrote in a unanimous decision released Wednesday.

Court transcripts show Camp called the complainant, an indigenous woman who was 19 years old and homeless at the time of the alleged assault, "the accused" throughout the trial — a phrase he repeated during a September judicial council disciplinary hearing before quickly correcting himself. He also told the young woman "pain and sex sometimes go together."

Camp acquitted Alexander Wagar in the 2014 trial, but the

+ CASE HISTORY

During a 2014 sexual assault trial Camp asked the complainant, a 19-year-old indigenous woman, why she couldn't keep her knees together.

verdict was overturned on appeal and a new trial was ordered. Testimony in the retrial wrapped

up earlier this month.

Camp was a provincial court judge in Calgary during the initial Wagar trial, but he was promoted to the Federal Court the following year.

The committee said Camp "relied on discredited myths and stereotypes about women and victim-blaming during the trial and in his reasons for judgment."

Camp has 30 days to make a written submission to the Canadian Judicial Council, said execu-

tive director Norman Sabourin. After that, the council will make a recommendation to Federal Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould.

Camp declined to comment on Wednesday, but at his disciplinary hearing in September, Camp apologized for what he called his rude and insulting attitude.

"I was not the good judge I thought I was," Camp said. "Canadians deserve more from their judges." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Const. Jeremy Shaw performs a roadside sobriety test with Const. Travis Robertson while wearing a suit that simulates the effects of cannabis, cocaine, ecstasy, LSD and heroin.

JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

ROAD SAFETY

Suit simulates effects of drugged driving

 **Jennifer Friesen**
For Metro | Calgary

A member of the Calgary police spent Wednesday morning weighted down, seeing double and trembling.

Geared up in Ford's new Drugged Driving Suit, Const. Jeremy Shaw completed a roadside sobriety test while the suit simulated the effects of drug use.

"I felt like I was in a bubble," said Shaw.

"As soon as I put the goggles on, everything changed. I couldn't even tell which way was straight."

Using weights, padding, flashing goggles, headphones and a device that generated a tremor in the hand, the suit simulates the slow reaction time and poor co-ordination associated with drug use.

The suit is the only one of its kind and just arrived in Calgary for a five-day visit. While here, the suit will be used to as a part of Ford's Driving Skills for Life program, showing novice drivers the impact drugs can have on the road.

"There are so many new drivers who don't get a chance to experience something like this until it's too late," said Greg

Eagleson, general manager of Cam Clark Ford in Airdrie. "But this way they actually have the chance to put on the suit and see that they don't have as much control as they think they do."

Calgary police and Ford's new driver program hope to use the suit to warn all Calgarians of the dangers of driving impaired, which includes the use of drugs.

Const. Travis Robertson from the Alcohol and Drug Recognition Unit said that, while the anti-drinking and driving message has been sinking into the public's mind, the anti-drug impaired driving message hasn't.

"What we're starting to see in Calgary is an increase — year after year — of drug-impaired

drivers that we're catching," he continued. "When we look at the overall picture of impaired driving, alcohol is almost starting to take a back seat

to drugs."

With the holiday season approaching and National Safe Driving Week starting on Dec. 1, Robertson said he hopes the young drivers who have the chance to try on the suit will make a change.

"It comes down to the fact that when you put a drug in your body, your body will react to it," he said. "And that can have consequences beyond measure."



Chief Roger Chaffin said a trend involving police officers shooting at moving vehicles has him very concerned. ELIZABETH CAMERON/FOR METRO

Chief wants a change in policy

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Shootings involving moving vehicles worrisome

Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

In the last year there have been 10 Calgary police officer-involved shootings, half of which have involved officers shooting at moving vehicles.

Calgary's chief of police, Roger Chaffin, said Tuesday at the monthly Calgary Police Commission meeting that this trend has him "very concerned."

Chaffin said one thing he needs to make clear is that in saying anything about these shootings he is speaking in general terms.

"It's always positioned wrong as if I'm concerned about one particular shooting or another — and I'm not," he said.

Chaffin said generally speaking, officers are getting put in

positions that are high risk.

"They're quite simply running on borrowed time and an officer is going to be seriously injured in one of these situations," he said.

And, Chaffin said he doesn't want to see this, and realizes something needs to change.

The chief said he's recently looked at policies of other police agencies across North America who have much stronger stances on shooting at vehicles, especially moving ones. In most cases, you just don't do it, he said.

"We need to work on getting people out of the cars and arresting them safely," he told the commission.

Chaffin said a few ways the service will look at making these changes are through policy adjustment, a change in leadership tactics and an independent review — something he said he spoke with Justice Minister Kathleen Gan-

ley about earlier this week.

"I want to make sure that our training, our tactics, our policy and our leadership is put in a position to be successful and safe," he said.

All five of the shootings involving vehicles began because officers were pursuing stolen vehicles, and Chaffin says he doesn't want to see the public or officers put themselves in harm's way just to recover stolen property.

"That's the change I want to see immediately," he said.

The chief said despite the increasing number of police-involved

shootings, these events represent a minuscule fraction of the tens of thousands of similar calls they attend every year — that end peacefully.

"We're managing chaos," he said.

"The majority of the time we do exhaust every option tactically to find a peaceful resolution."

FIRST NATIONS

Lee Crowchild elected chief

Lee Crowchild was elected Chief of Tsuut'ina Nation Tuesday night, defeating Roy Whitney for the role.

Crowchild is a former Tsuut'ina teacher and Mount Royal University instructor.

Crowchild ran on a pledge to promote culture, spirituality and to preserve the environment. He also pledged to head an administration that would be prudent, transparent and responsible.

About 70 per cent of Nation members casted a ballot, but the results of the election are subject to a five-day review and need to be verified by Tsuu T'ina elections officers before it is finalized. METRO

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Multiplayer space brawler hits Steam

VIDEO GAMES

Designer pits players against each other in an asteroid field

 Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Justin Luk's marriage saved his debut video game.

After nearly three years of working on Astervoid 2000, Luk was burned out. You see, Luk taught himself how to code using online tutorials, starting from nothing and creating the original Astervoid game.

He saw potential in it to be a commercial product — more than a training exercise — so he recreated it. Again, and again, each time updating the graphics, smoothing out the gameplay and generally upping the awesome quotient.



Although primarily an effort between two people, developer Justin Luk said the Calgary Game Developers and the online community also offered their support. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

By the time Luk's wedding rolled around in August, he was all but done with the project.

"We'd recreated it so many times I was so burnt out on the concept, I was like, 'man, I'm going to walk away,'" he admit-

ted. Luckily for him, his partner on the project, Chuck Bergeron, continued to toil away on the game for three weeks while Luk honeymooned in Japan with his new wife.

By the time he got back, he

was ready to work. Three years of work was saved by his two great partners (one in life, one in Astervoid) and it's finally paid off.

The game is officially on sale Dec 1., through Steam, the largest online PC gaming store.

Astervoid 2000 is a space brawler, where up to four players compete in a space death match — while avoiding asteroids and other dangers. The game has no online component and is meant to be played with everyone in the same room, shouting and blasting away, like the good old days of gaming.

It seems to be getting traction — YouTube gamers have sought out early access copies of the game, from as far away as Saudi Arabia, to share on their channels.

"Getting here has been a long journey. I'm super excited to get this finished and move on to the next one," Luk laughed. "I have a list of one hundred ideas I want to try."

tional Film Board is a resource I see used quite often — and you couldn't use that on campus."

Some students even told the SAMRU president they had to go home to do homework, and weren't able to meet up on campus for projects because the internet simply wasn't reliable — it was affecting campus culture.

As Gadamssetti explained, the building's concrete structure, and students' increased

use of wireless devices, had stressed the network to a point that the school had to limit streaming to offer the community a fair share of bandwidth.

Then, she said as the tech department

tried to improve coverage by adding more signals to the school's dead spots this year things turned for the worse.

"This year, because they've been trying to find solutions — it has been abysmal," said Gadamssetti.

TECHNOLOGY

University launches new Wi-Fi network

 Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Mount Royal University just got some pretty fly Wi-Fi — and according to students looking to connect, it's been a long time coming.

As of Nov. 30, the MRU IT department is launching a new network, one for visitors to the university, and another secure

network for students, pros and administrators.

Although it seems like it's "nbd," Students' Association of Mount Royal University president Shifrah Gadamssetti explains the new internet will actually help students on a number of fronts.

"So much of our learning happens online," said Gadamssetti. "A lot of the times we have electronic textbooks we're accessing, or articles, the Na-


So much of our learning happens online. A lot of the times we have electronic textbooks.

Shifrah Gadamssetti

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Jette selected to represent Canada

PAGEANT

Calgarian took home crown for married women

Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Canada's Mrs. International competition has crowned Calgary's Ashley Jette to represent the country at the global pageant next year.

Jette has been married for more than six years and has a two-year-old son at home.

That's important, because Mrs. International is a contest strictly for married women — one of the rules states contestants must be married a minimum of six months before they can participate.

"There aren't that many pageants available for married women — at least in Canada," she said. "I'm a person of faith,



Ashley Jette
COURTESY CANDICE WARD

so I really think God gave us families because they make us happy. I think it's the best place to learn to love other people, learn to be yourself and be happy."

Husbands play a direct part in the show, escorting their wives during the evening gown portion — and the husband places the crown on the winner.

Jette acknowledged there could be a bit of stigma around married women in the pageant world. Jette had been participating in pageants since the age of

13 as a hobby, but when she was married at 23, suddenly there were fewer opportunities for her to compete.

Which is a shame, because a fair amount of pageantry is centred on being a good ambassador for the year and carrying a strong platform, according to Jette. "Pageantry, in my experience, has a lot less to do with beauty than people think it does," she said.

Jette developed her platform around something important to her — and her family.

Her father was actually adopted by her grandparents, and after her grandparents passed, Jette helped her father track down his birth mother, to let her know her son had grown up happy with a good family.

The experience inspired Jette to join Motherhood Matters, a mentorship program for teen or young mothers. With her Mrs. International crown, Jette hopes to advocate for more support systems to help young mothers.

Next August, Jette will fly to West Virginia for the final leg of the pageant.

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Canadian businesses proving more diverse

#WOMENONBOARDS

Women make up 21% of the directors in big companies

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

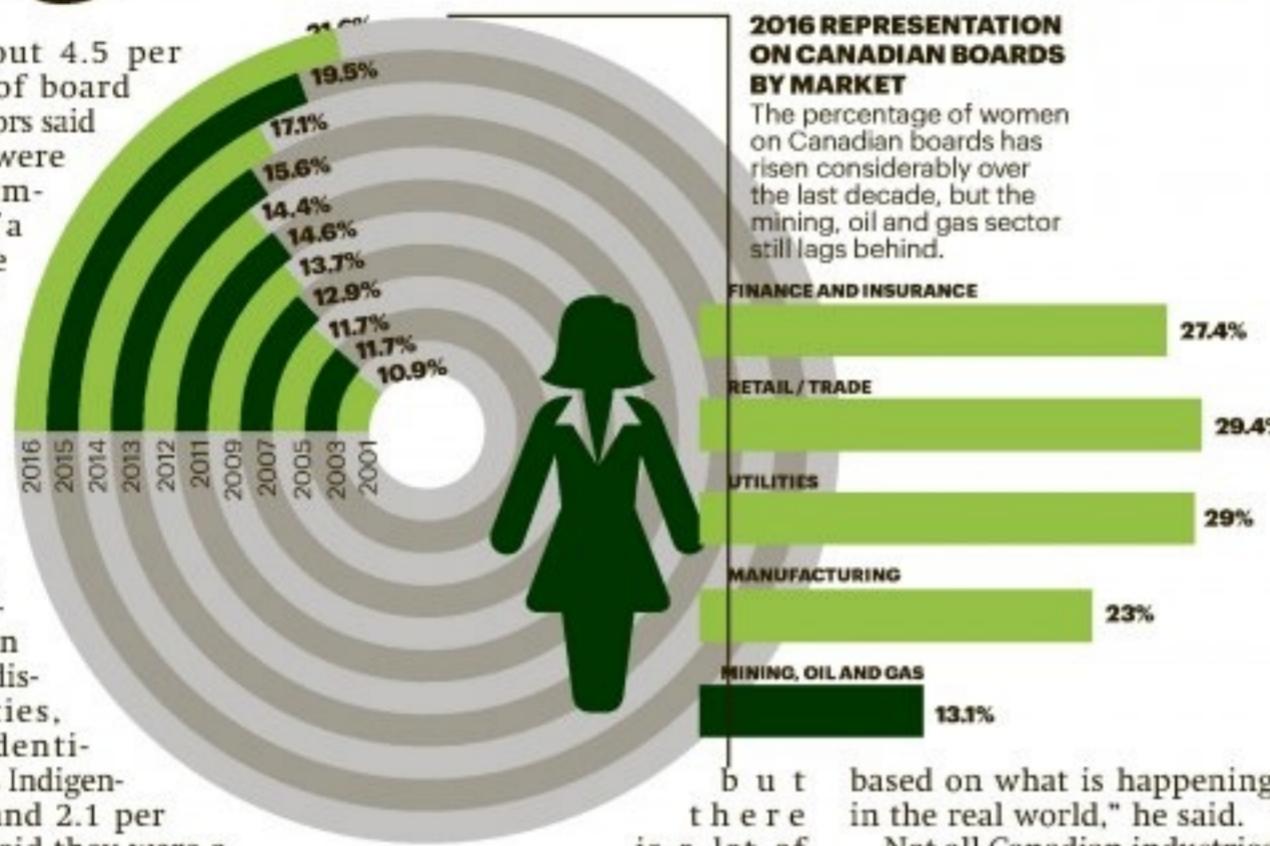
Canada's major corporations have a few more women and a bit more diversity around their boardroom tables — but they are still a long way from reflecting the make-up of the country.

The Canadian Board Diversity Council released its annual survey this week showing that women now make up 21.6 per cent of the directors on the boards of 500 major Canadian companies. That's up slightly from 19.5 per cent last year and up significantly from the 10.9 per cent in 2009, when the survey first began.

About 4.5 per cent of board directors said they were a member of a visible minority, 1.8 per cent

identified as a person with disabilities, 0.6 identified as Indigenous, and 2.1 per cent said they were a member of the LGBTQ community.

Sean Hemraj, vice-president of business development and marketing for the Women's Executive Network, said the numbers are an improvement



but there is a lot of work to do.

He said diversity is not just about better representation, but about better business.

"It offers a different perspective that helps organizations recognize, adapt and innovate

based on what is happening in the real world," he said.

Not all Canadian industries are created equally on this front. Retail companies had the most gender diversity on the board, with 29.4 per cent, but mining and oil and gas firms were much lower, at 13.1 per cent.

Winnipeg zine to focus on 'Trump Resistance'

Jessica Botelho-Urbanski
For Metro | Winnipeg

that it was Hillary Clinton she didn't want in, it was the fact it was a female," Havrilenko said in an email. "The shock has materialized to worry and bouts of disgust, especially with how individuals reacted upon hearing Trump won."

Havrilenko teamed up with Gabrielle Funk in 2013 to create magazines, zines and events encouraging emotional vulnerability. So rather than venting their frustrations about the election outcome online, the pair decided to make an apt contribution to the political discourse.

Havrilenko was in Minneapolis the weekend before the U.S. election and said she was shocked by the anti-Hillary Clinton sentiments she saw.

"My jaw dropped when I overheard a mother tell her young son that she would rather blow her own brains out than have a female president. It wasn't even

"I know people find it very easy to just respond over social media or text about it. It seems like no one's having any trouble talking about it," said Funk. "For me, the idea (was) creating a platform to constructively talk about it ... and not allow it to just become this normalized thing."



The collective puts together an issue of rip/torn. COURTESY JOSEPH VISSER

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Trump leaves businesses

POLITICS

President-elect walks away from empire to focus on presidency

President-elect Donald Trump declared Wednesday he will leave his business empire behind to focus on his presidency. But the prospect that he could simply shift more control to three of his adult children looked too cozy to some business-ethics specialists who suggest the arrangement could bring unprecedented conflicts of interest into the Oval Office.

Trump announced in a ser-

ies of early morning tweets that he would leave his "great business," adding: "While I am not mandated to do this under the law, I feel it is visually important, as president, to in no way have a conflict of interest with my various businesses."

Trump provided no details, though he said legal documents were being prepared. He previously had said he'd leave his business operations to his three eldest children - Donald Jr., Eric and Ivanka.

Asked if the tweets indicated plans to move the businesses to the children, Trump senior adviser Kellyanne Conway said Wednesday, "it appears that way."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CARLSEN REMAINS CHAIRMAN OF THE CHESSBOARD

Magnus Carlsen of Norway defeated Sergey Karjakin of Russia in the World Chess Championship in New York City on Wednesday. Carlsen retained his title Wednesday

night by winning the best-of-four speed games. Around 6 million people followed the series, with the grand prize of \$1.1 million divided between the players. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



MORE PHOTOS ON THE METRO APP

CELEBRATING THE OBAMAS' LAST CHRISTMAS This year's White House Gingerbread House in the State Dining Room of the White House during a preview of the holiday decor at the White House. The gingerbread house features 150 pounds of gingerbread on the inside, 100 pounds of bread dough on the outside, 20 pounds of gum paste, 20 pounds of icing, and 20 pounds of sculpted sugar pieces. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



First Lady Michelle Obama speaks to military families in the East Room of the White House during a preview of the 2016 holiday decor. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Cubans line up to bid leader farewell

MOURNING

Fidel Castro makes his final journey through nation

To waving flags and some shouts of "Long may he live!" Fidel Castro's ashes began a four-day journey across the island Wednesday, retracing the path of his triumphant march into Havana nearly six decades ago.

A small, Cuban-flag covered cedar coffin containing the remains of the 90-year-old leader was taken out of Cuba's Defence Ministry just after 7 a.m. and placed into a flower-decked trailer pulled by a green military jeep for the more than 500-mile (800-kilometre) procession to his final resting place in the eastern city of Santiago. The ashes will be interred Sunday, ending the nine-day mourning period for the man who ruled the country

for nearly 50 years.

The route traces in reverse the victory tour Castro and his bearded rebels took after overthrowing the forces of strongman Fulgencio Batista in 1959.

Outside Havana, the caravan will pass through rural communities significantly changed by social and economic reforms he adopted. Many residents now have access to health care and education. But many of those towns are also in a prolonged economic collapse, the country's once-dominant sugar industry decimated, the sugar mills and plantations gone.

Thousands lined the streets of Havana, some sleeping on sidewalks overnight, to bid goodbye to Castro. Many attended a massive rally Tuesday night at Havana's Revolution Plaza, where the presidents of Cuba, Mexico, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela and South Africa, along with other leaders offered speeches paying tribute to Castro.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Children hold a photograph of former Cuban President Fidel Castro as they wait for the caravan transporting his remains to pass on its journey to Santiago de Cuba. GETTY IMAGES

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Foreign ownership of condos dropping

HOUSING

Agency's boss warns against 'us versus them' mentality

The president of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. is warning against an "us versus them" mentality in Vancouver, where he says foreign buyers are not the major factor driving unaffordability.

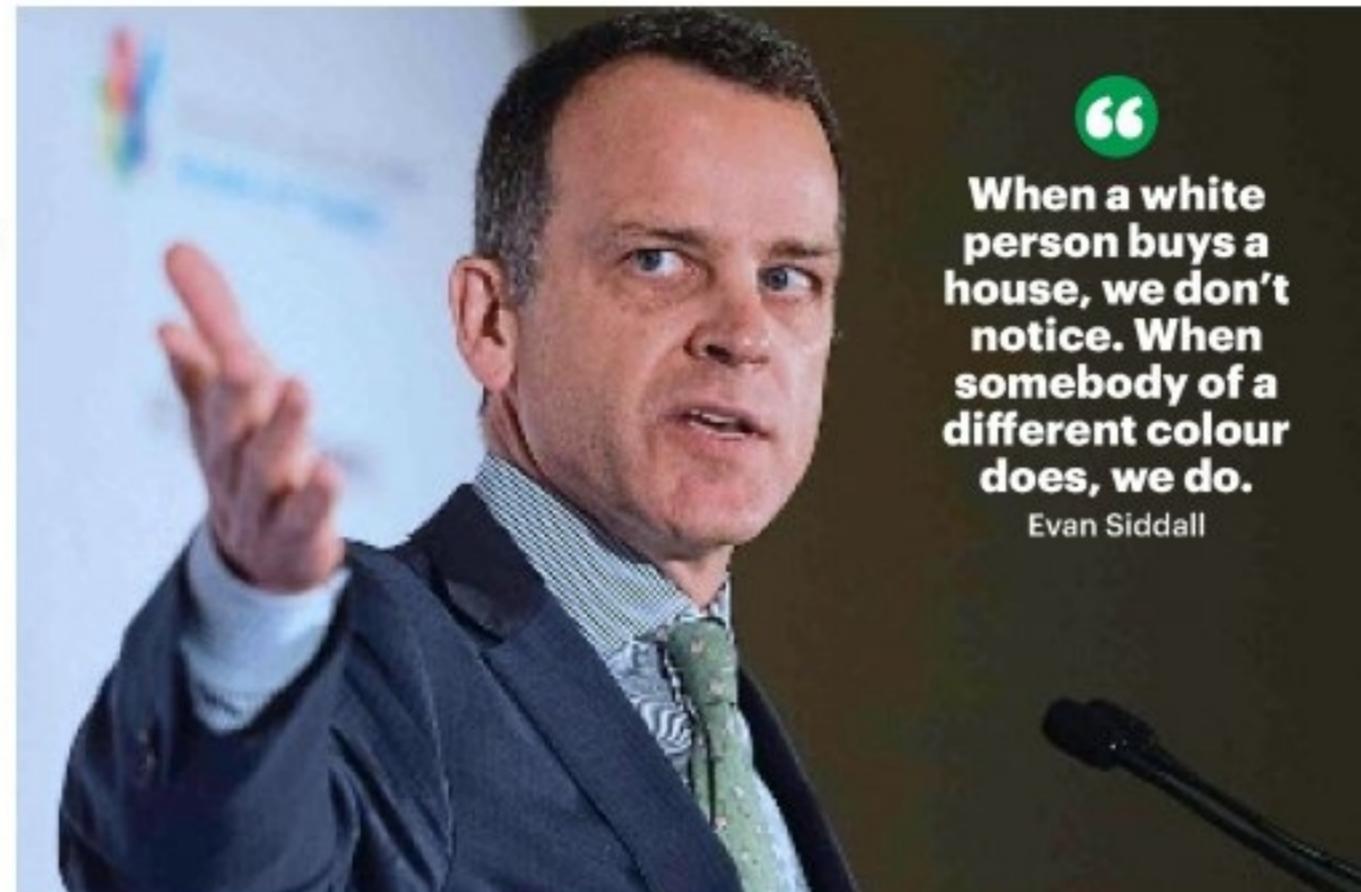
Evan Siddall delivered a pointed speech on Wednesday to the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade, where he said housing should not become a wedge that divides newcomers from long-time residents.

"When a white person buys a house, we don't notice. When somebody of a different colour does, we do. That's not good economics," he said.

Vancouver's skyrocketing housing prices have increasingly been blamed on foreign capital flowing from China. The British Columbia government introduced a 15-per-cent tax on foreign buyers in July in response to those concerns.

Asked by reporters whether he believed racism was playing a role in the housing debate, Siddall said he wouldn't use such a "strong term," but the contrast between "us and them" was a factor.

Siddall said in his speech Vancouver's market was al-



Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation President and CEO Evan Siddall, addresses the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade, in Vancouver, B.C., on Wednesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

BY THE NUMBERS

2.2 per cent

Vancouver, down from 3.5%

2.3 per cent

Toronto, down from 3.3%

ready starting to slow down before the foreign-buyers tax

was introduced. While offshore buyers are one factor contributing to unaffordability, he said, they are not the only factor. The most important factors over the long term are economic: rising disposable incomes, increased inflows of people and lower mortgage rates, he said.

A report released Wednesday by the CMHC showed foreign ownership of condominiums in Canada's largest cities has slowed down since last year.

Foreign ownership was the highest in Vancouver and Toronto at 2.2 per cent and 2.3 per cent, respectively. However, that was down from 3.5 per cent in Vancouver and 3.3 per cent in Toronto in 2015, according to the report.

The report said the relatively higher shares in Vancouver and Toronto in 2015 were due to an unusually high proportion of foreign ownership in newly constructed condominiums.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



NOTICE OF DELEGATE SELECTION MEETING FOR PCAA LEADERSHIP CALGARY-CROSS

Date: Sunday December 18, 2016
Time: 1 p.m.
Location: North East Sportsplex Society
5206 68 Street NE, Calgary

If you want to become a delegate for the upcoming leadership convention in Calgary, Alberta on March 17-19, 2017 please send a notice of interest to your DRO, Susan Elliott at Catalyst.mgt@shaw.ca by December 11, 2016 at 12:00pm.

In order to be a delegate nominee or voting member, you must attend the meeting in person, meet all eligibility requirements and hold a membership for at least 14 days prior to the meeting date (prior to December 4, 2016). As well, those wanting to be a delegate nominee will be asked to speak at the meeting.

More details available at www.pcalberta.org

ENERGY

Oil cartel agrees to cut crude output

Breaking with years of inaction, OPEC agreed Wednesday to cut its oil output for the first time since 2008. The move effectively scraps its strategy of squeezing U.S. competition through high supply that had backfired by lowering prices and draining the cartel's own economies.

The reduction of 1.2 million barrels a day is significant, leaving OPEC's daily output at 32.5 million barrels. And OPEC President Mohammed Bin Saleh Al-Sada said non-OPEC nations are expected to pare an additional 600,000 barrels a day off their production.

The combined cut will result, at least in the short term, in somewhat more pricey oil — and, by extension, car fuel, heating and electricity. The international benchmark for crude jumped 8.3 per cent, or \$3.86 US, to \$50.24 US on Wednesday.

In the longer term, however, analysts say it's highly unlikely that oil will return to the highs of around \$100 US a barrel last seen two years ago. That's partly due to the fact that President-elect Donald Trump

has promised to free up more oil drilling in the U.S., which would increase global supply. Demand is also not recovering as the world economy sags.

Al-Sada said the OPEC cutback is to take effect Jan. 1, with consultations planned on the exact timing of the non-OPEC reductions. Russia alone is committed to taking 300,000 barrels a day off the market.

Wednesday's decision was a departure from years of infighting among members refusing to give up their market share.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Members of OPEC attend a meeting at in Vienna on Wednesday. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

CANADIAN RAILWAYS

CP Rail, CN Rail positive about a Trump presidency

Canada's two largest railways told a transportation conference they're not worried about a Donald Trump presidency. CP Rail president Keith Creel said Trump's attention in threatening changes to the North American Free Trade Agreement is

targeted mainly at Mexico. And Trump's \$1-trillion US infrastructure program would increase demand for Canadian raw materials. Ghislain Houle, chief financial officer of CN Rail, was similarly positive but was concerned quotas on softwood lumber exports would hurt the railway.

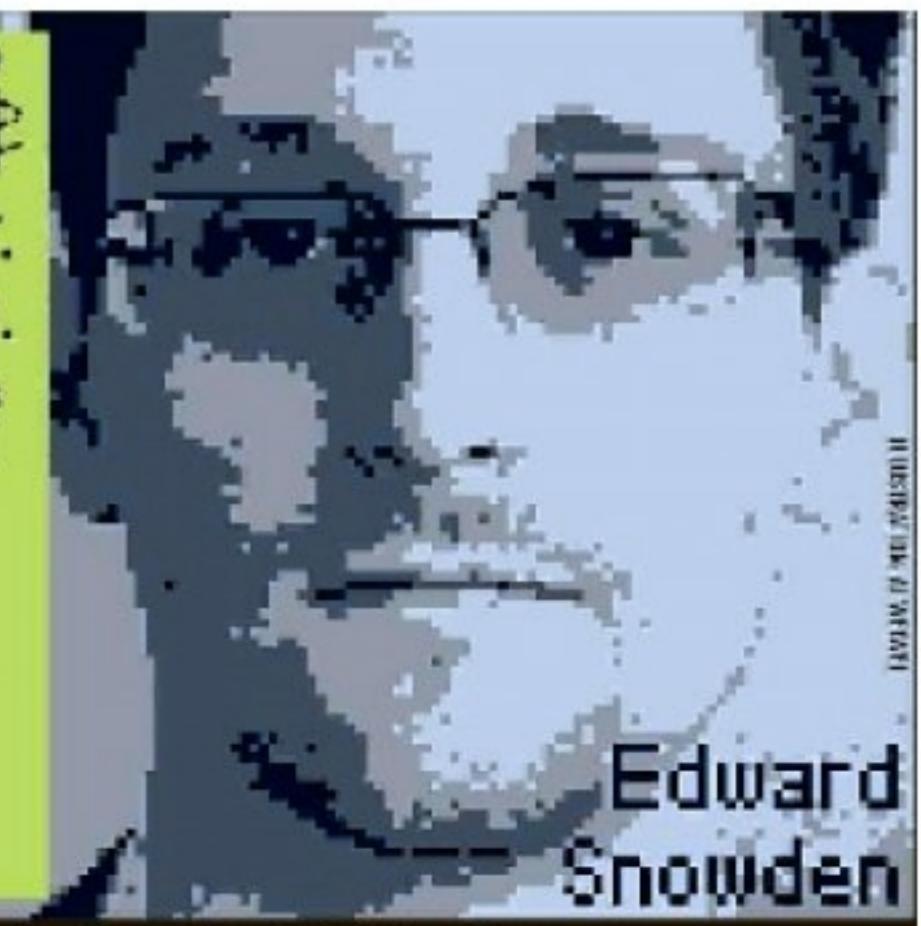
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CHANTAL HÉBERT ON THE APPROVED PIPELINES



It is a rare government decision that involves a lot of predictable political pain for little obvious electoral gain. For better or for worse, the approval by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau of the controversial Trans Mountain pipeline falls in that category.

It is unlikely to win him supporters within the ranks of those who most support the pipeline agenda. They tend to be spoken for by the Conservative party and, for the most part, have no appetite for Trudeau's proactive climate change agenda.

On the other hand, at least some of the seats of the 17 Liberal MPs elected in B.C. in the last election could be on the line. The approval of this pipeline plan will not sit well with many of the constituents. Even if he wanted to, Trudeau could not get all his caucus members to sing the same song on this issue. A handful of them have already broken ranks with his decision.

The Liberals are not the only ones potentially at risk on what is probably Canada's most contentious front these days.

Take British Columbia Premier Christy Clark. She will be campaigning for re-election in the spring. If she supports Trudeau's move, it will be her provincial Liberals who will first test the post-announcement waters.

There is no way Trudeau could have killed two pipelines to the Pacific coast and then backed the no less controversial Energy East project.

Trudeau's announcement is unlikely to win him supporters within the ranks of those who most support the pipeline agenda. They tend to be spoken for by the Conservative party.

She could be in for a choppy crossing.

There is a widespread expectation on Parliament Hill that Clark will at some point publicly sign off on the Trans Mountain project.

wants to see how it all plays out before taking a definitive stance.

Then there is the NDP. While Alberta Premier Rachel Notley was celebrating a big win alongside Trudea



Pipeline Pals Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Alberta Premier Rachel Notley speak on Parliament Hill, Tuesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The federal government has been playing nice with its B.C. counterpart, delivering a much wanted green light for a major liquefied gas development and promising billions of federal dollars to improve marine safety.

But Clark would not be the political survivor that she is if she did not have a well-honed instinct for self-preservation. B.C. elections are won or lost in the greater Vancouver area, the site of the pipeline whose capacity to carry bitumen oil to the coast Kinder Morgan plans to expand.

On Wednesday, she said Trudeau was close to meeting all of her conditions for supporting the pipeline. She invited the prime minister to come to B.C. to sell the decision. By all indications, she

deau on Tuesday, Thomas Mulcair was calling the federal decision a betrayal of the trust many B.C. voters placed in the prime minister. The provincial New Democrats are also critical of the federal decision.

The cracks between the ruling NDP in Edmonton and their opposition cousins in Parliament and in Victoria are becoming too wide to be papered over. Whoever succeeds Mulcair will be hard-pressed to square the pipe-line circle.

In any event, as of now Trudeau and Notley are joined at the hip. On Tuesday, the prime minister argued it was the premier's determination to rein in Alberta's carbon emissions that made his approval of a pipeline consistent with Can-

ada's climate change commitments.

But if she fails to win re-election the quid pro quo is unlikely to survive her NDP government, leaving Trudeau with little to show on climate change for having delivered a pipeline from tidewater to Alberta.

Had the prime minister vetoed the Kinder Morgan project, he might as well have declared a moratorium on any plan to bring more of Alberta's bitumen oil to the Canadian coasts.

There is no way Trudeau could have killed two pipelines to the Pacific coast (Northern Gateway and Trans Mountain) and then backed the no less controversial Energy East project. (Punting the decision on the Vancouver area pipeline would most likely only have hardened opposition to the plan.)

That being said, it might be prudent for TransCanada — the company behind the plan to link the oilfields to the Atlantic Coast through the Prairies and Central Canada — to not take this week's federal yes to Kinder Morgan as a sign that its pipeline will be good to go any time soon, if at all.

A betting person might reasonably wager that Trudeau will not want to open another front in the pipeline wars between now and the 2019 election. And that probably makes Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard, who could be facing an uphill re-election battle in less than two years, a collateral winner of this week's developments.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro on Thursdays.

VICKY MOCHAMA

Gilmores' girl-on-girl banter sounds suspiciously like life

When Gilmore Girls premiered 16 years ago, it was unique — a female-centric show that stayed focused on women — but the data shows that with its return to Netflix, it is still an anomaly.

Gilmore Girls can do no wrong. In my heart, it already has five stars (I rate on a four star system.) It would be like Netflix putting out a show called Your Mom, featuring only video clips of my mother. Even when she's not perfect, she's perfect to me.

So instead of quality or plot, I'm watching for validation.

This isn't to set the bar low for the revival. With a cast including Melissa McCarthy, Kelly Bishop, and Edward Herrmann there were many Emmy-worth episodes in the original run. Exhibit A: In a Season 1 episode, Rory (Alexis Bledel) returns home in the early morning after a date. On finding out, Lauren Graham's Lorelai veers from panicking to castigating her mother to fighting with her daughter. Within a five-minute span, she hits every single note perfectly.

Notably, that scene like countless others in the Gilmore Girls' canon, is focused on women's relationships with each other. This was a show entirely about women's lives apart from men. (Occasionally, the plot centres on a man but, despite our best efforts, that happens in women's lives too.)

In writing women's lives, film and television consistently fail. Take the Disney princess films. You'd think that women clearly dominate the dialogue in movies about



them. Turns out that even in fictional cartoon worlds, men routinely talk over women.

Researchers found that in the original three princess films — Snow White, Sleeping Beauty and Cinderella — female characters speak as much or more than male characters but that in the films of the 1990s, male voices dominate the dialogue: they speak 76 per cent of the time in Pocahontas, 68 per cent in The Little Mermaid, and 71 per cent in Beauty and the Beast. In the newer films like Tangled, Brave and Frozen, males still get the majority of talk time.

An exhaustive study from Polygraph confirmed the trend. Looking at screenplays for 2000 films, the team found that men over-indexed in speaking roles across every genre of film and age of actor. Even romantic comedy had men speaking 58 per cent of the lines. Polygraph also found that women actors over 42 experienced a sudden drop in assigned dialogue and that by age 65, they were virtually mute. Conversely, as men aged, they were given more speaking roles.

From a bird's-eye view, then, it's easy to see why the revival has caught the attention of so many women. We're starving to hear women's voices, even if they're the same ones we've heard before.

So not only is it great to hear the Gilmore women talk again but in the dim landscape of television and film, it's nice to hear any women talk at all.

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A guide to spotting fake news

SOCIAL MEDIA

Librarians give tools to catch manipulative stories online

 **May Warren**
Metro | Toronto

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is Fidel Castro's long-lost illegitimate son.

It's the latest example of a totally made-up, 100 per cent false news story, one that was circulating on Facebook after the Cuban leader's recent death.

To help weed out such bogus news, which proliferated during the U.S. election and generated big ad dollars for creators, librarians at the University of Toronto have developed a handy cheat sheet.

Student engagement librarian Heather Buchansky said it's about giving readers the tools to spot fake stories and the guide is a "reminder to be more critical" as more and more people turn to sites like Facebook for information.

"It's quite easy to fall prey when you look at a website and you're thinking ok, well if it's online it must be true," she said.

Gavin Adamson, a journalism professor at Ryerson University, urges people to click around a bit before sharing articles on social media. When news sources don't have a lot of other content it's a clue that stories may be fake.

"These websites don't stand up to a lot of due diligence. If you just take a moment after recognizing you're probably being manipulated it's very easy to tear these things down," he said.

For Jeffrey Dvorkin, lecturer



University of Toronto librarians Eveline Houtman and Heather Buchansky have developed a guide to help students spot fake news. GEOFFREY VENDEVILLE / COURTESY OF UOFT NEWS



A tweet by @TrumpaholicMAGA claimed "they sure look alike," and the user shared this image of Trudeau and Castro. Fake news stories easily gain momentum online. ILLUSTRATION BY METRO; PHOTO VIA @TRUMPALHOLICMAGA

and director of the journalism program at the University of Toronto Scarborough, fake news is not a new problem, but that doesn't mean it shouldn't be taken seriously.

"The problem with the digital culture is that it is really the Wild West of information," he said.

"We shouldn't freak out

and figure the sky is falling, although the clouds are a bit lower than they used to be."

Given the "tsunami" of content available online, people are driven towards sources where they feel more comfortable that often just confirm their own biases, he said.

Both Google and Facebook have been under fire for al-

lowing fake news, and recently announced they will take measures to curb sham stories.

Closer to home, Buchansky said they've had a good response to the guide, posted Friday, and shared by librarians on social media.

"It hasn't spread as far as fake news itself," she said.

"But it's been positive."

CHEAT SHEET

Top ways to spot lies on the internet

With so much content out there it can be easy to be duped. Here's how to avoid accidentally spamming your friends:

- 1 Look at the domain name. When sites end in unusual ways, such as ".com.co," it's a clue they may be fake.
- 2 Check out the source a little more carefully. If you've never heard of a website look at the "About Us" section for more info, or explore it more to see how much other content there is.
- 3 Google the headline to see how other news sources are reporting the story. Are there any other accounts? How have other outlets reported it?
- 4 The use of ALL CAPS, and very poor web design are clues you're not looking at a reliable source.
- 5 Does the article make you incredibly angry or outraged? Good journalism can also evoke emotion but if something is trying to make you mad on purpose to share the story and get ad revenue, it's a red flag.
- 6 There are a few handy websites that can help verify stories and sources, such as: FactCheck.org, PoliticFact, and Snopes.

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BOOK BRIEFS**Suspense novel up next for Girl on the Train author**The British author of *The Girl on the Train* will next tell a tale of murder in a riverside town.Riverhead Books told The Associated Press on Tuesday that Paula Hawkins' *Into the Water* is a suspense novel about family secrets and "the slipperiness of truth" that will be published May 2. The plot centres on the discovery of the bodies of a mother and teenage girl at the bottom of a river and the investigation that follows. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**"****It's about how your memories of childhood shape you and make you the person you are.** Paula Hawkins

I never let anything or anyone define me or my potential. I controlled my future.
Serena Williams

CALENDAR

A-Listers' natural beauty celebrated

Pirelli on Tuesday unveiled the 2017 edition of its famed calendar, which sees photographer Peter Lindbergh mature beyond snaps of seminude models and set his lens on Hollywood.

The calendar, entitled "Emotional" and launched in Paris, stars 14 Oscar-winning actresses featured in black-and-white close up, in clothed poses with invisible makeup.

It's a dramatic move away from decades of risqué shots that made the calendar, produced by the Italian tire manufacturer, one of the most recognizable in the world.

A-listers including Charlotte Rampling, Uma Thurman,

Helen Mirren, Nicole Kidman, Lea Seydoux, Alicia Vikander, Kate Winslet, Julianne Moore, Lupita Nyong'o, Rooney Mara, Zhang Ziyi and Jessica Chastain all agreed to go near-makeup-free for the grown-up shoots.

Speaking about his artistic choices, the German photographer said that he's "not so fond of high heels and bikinis" and wanted to capture the nakedness in the soul of the calendar's stars, not their bodies.

"In a time when women are represented in the media (as) perfection and truth, I thought it was important to remind people that there is a different beauty," Lindbergh said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Nicole Kidman, left, and Uma Thurman. AP PHOTO/FRANCOIS MORI



EQUITY WOMEN 'MUST CONTINUE TO DREAM BIG' Serena Williams has penned an open letter calling out what she sees as double standards faced by women in sports. The 22-time Grand Slam champion says people call her one of the "world's greatest female athletes," but notes that male athletes such as LeBron James and Tiger Woods aren't described by their gender. Williams says the equal pay issue frustrates her because women "have done the same work and made the same sacrifices as our male counterparts." She says women "must continue to dream big" to "empower the next generation of women to be just as bold in their pursuits." The letter was published in Porter Magazine and republished by British newspaper The Guardian. LUCA BRUNO/AP FILE

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DEVILISHLY CLEVER...
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- Louis B. Hobson, Calgary Sun

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CABINET SOLUTIONS

An old soul with an eye on the future



Surendra describes his book, *The Elephants in My Backyard*, as "the Eat, Pray, Love for the millennial generation." CONTRIBUTED

MEMOIR

Rajiv Surendra on heartbreak, big dreams and trying to swim

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada

When Rajiv Surendra was only 12 years old — well before he was cast as the rapping mathlete Kevin Gnapoor in Tina Fey's cult comedy *Mean Girls* starring Lindsay Lohan — he took up calligraphy while working as a costumed interpreter at Toronto's Black Creek Pioneer Village.

It's an unusual hobby for a young boy, but Surendra has always been something of an old soul.

"I think there's something so important about looking at the past to understand the future," Surendra says. "I feel such a connection with a slower, quieter time."

The key to creating his smooth pen or chalk strokes, Surendra explains, is that it takes not just a steady hand, but use of his full arm, right from his shoulder.

It took years to perfect the craft, which he has now turned into a career; his patience and persistence holding up Malcolm Gladwell's theory that you need 10,000 hours of practice to master a skill.

Surendra's obsessive nature and unwillingness to settle also led him on the biggest journey of his life, trying to snag the lead role in the film adaptation of Yann Martel's novel *The Life of Pi*. His failed quest is at the heart of his memoir, *The Elephants in My Backyard*, which he refers to as "the Eat, Pray, Love for the millennial generation."

It was a camera operator on the *Mean Girls* set who suggested Surendra read *Life of Pi*, saying, "It's a book about you."

Surendra tore through the novel and discovered eerie similarities with Martel's protagonist. Although he had obviously never survived on an ocean raft with a menagerie of wild beasts like Pi, both were young, thin Tamil men who grew up with animals, and studied at the University of Toronto's St. Michael's College. And so when news broke that a film in the works, Surendra wanted the lead more than anything in his life. He was Pi.

Surendra travelled to India



I feel such a connection with a slower, quieter time.

Rajiv Surendra

for several months to immerse in the culture. He dove off a cliff and stared a tiger in the eye, but that was not half as frightening as getting in the

water. "On the horrible, horrible days when I was so scared in the water and I was hyperventilating and my muscles were seizing, I would tell myself that even if you don't get this part, all the work and struggling will be worth it because you will know how to swim," he says.

Meanwhile, the film was also struggling, with revolving directors attached to the project. When director Ang Lee eventually cast unknown Indian actor Suraj Sharma in the part, Surendra was devastated, and took off for Munich for a year to mourn. "After six years of research and dreaming, Pi was a real person to me — it was like he died," he says. Eventually Surendra came back to Toronto, and picked up his calligraphy pen again.

"The reason why I was motivated to write this story down is because I learned so much," he says.

"Hey, if I could embark on something like this, and fail and pick myself up and keep going, then the next big dream or journey won't be difficult."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.



JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Witty, wry, even sad, Fleabag is a sensation

THE SHOW: *Fleabag*, Season 1, Episode 1 (Amazon Prime)

THE MOMENT: Dissing the ex

Fleabag (Phoebe Waller-Bridge, who created and writes the show) has just met a buck-toothed man on a bus (Jamie Demetriou). He asks how her ex was fool enough to let her go.

"He was just really kind and

supportive," she says. "He'd cook all the time, run baths ... Plus he was really f—ing affectionate."

She's serious, but Bus Rodent doesn't get it. "Yeah, he sounds like a dickhead," he says.

She gives him her number. "I'll be sure to treat you like a nasty little bitch," he says. She grins into the camera at us.

"Um, that was a joke," he

says.

"Oh, I know," she trills. But to us, she frowns.

In this six-part series, Waller-Bridge's sharp-tongued, but secretly self-loathing, Londoner (we never learn her real name) frequently breaks the fourth wall, talking directly to the viewer in the middle of a scene.

You can see why the show

is a sensation. Waller-Bridge is witty and wry and then suddenly sad. Though by the end you may feel that a piece of her soul is still missing, you'd happily come back for more.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.



HAVE YOU BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA?

People with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder wanted for University of Calgary research study. Participants will receive \$60 and free access to an online brain training program.



403-220-4340 email us at schizophreniastudy@ucalgary.ca

Any information collected is confidential. This study has been approved by the University of Calgary Ethics Board (REB15-0516).

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MEET THE CONDO



BRAND TOWNHOMES IN COCHRANE

CONTRIBUTED

A modern and well-designed space

Project overview

Expect to have it all in your new townhome including well designed spaces, functional floorplans and modern colour palettes, all while living in one of Cochrane's most popular new communities. There is something for everyone with the wide variety of available home styles and floorplans.

Housing amenities

Modern, functional spaces designed for today's young professional or growing families. Wide plank rustic laminate flooring, choice of shaker or flat panel cabinetry, stainless steel appliances and so much more. These townhomes included attached single or double garages backing onto greenspace.

Location and transit

Tucked away in the rolling foothills of the Rockies along the scenic Bow River, Cochrane is a modern community renowned for its charming Western heritage. Enjoy the close proximity to schools and an array of nearby amenities with a short commute to Calgary.

In the neighbourhood

This new community is just moments away from a host of amenities including grocery stores, gas stations, restaurants and shopping as well as a spacious park with a playground and pathway system. Of course, this great neighbourhood is also just a short drive to Banff.
KRISTA SYLVESTER/FOR METRO

NEED TO KNOW

What: BRAND townhomes in Cochrane

Builder: Birchwood Properties Corp.

Building: Two phases with a total of 96 townhomes

Sizes: 1,055 sq. ft., 1,247 sq. ft., 1,372 sq. ft.

Pricing: \$229,900 to \$279,900

Suites: Two- and three-storey

townhomes with two or three bedrooms

Status: Summer 2017 possession

Sales Centre: 32 Horseshoe Crescent, Cochrane

Hours: Monday to Thursday 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Phone: 403-605-1400

Website: brandtownhomes.ca

REAL ESTATE

What's hot on the market

1 NOW SELLING

The Ashford of Altadore by Albi Luxury of Brookfield Residential

The Ashford is an 18-unit luxury project starting in mid-\$600,000s planned for the established inner city community of Altadore. The Ashford site is located on 48th Ave. and 16th Street S.W., boasting easy access to 21-hectare River Park. S.E.

2 PRE-SELLING

Riverhouse by FRAM + Slokker

Located along the river in Calgary's booming East Village, Riverhouse is a unique condo project that features just a dozen luxury residences. With breathtaking views and a historical atmosphere, this project will complement East Village perfectly. Check out the sales centre at 553 Riverfront Ave. S.E.

3 STILL SELLING

Axess by Slokker West

Axess will soon be home to 164 signature condos, 19 executive townhomes and 19 walk-out studios all designed to reflect a thoroughly contemporary look and feel in the desirable community of Currie Barracks. Please visit the Show Suite, at #95 Burma Star Road S.W.



UNDERSTANDING UNIONS

CALGARY'S HISTORY OF PRO-LABOUR

Modern Calgary may not know or remember this, but Early Calgary was, for a time, the most pro-labour town in Canada.

"Calgary is unique," says Dr. Alvin Finkel, president of the Alberta Labour History Institute and professor emeritus in Canadian History at Athabasca University. "After the First World War, Calgary was the home of the radical One Big Union, and Calgary elected a Labour MP in 1921. Then during the Depression, Calgary had a Labour mayor, Labour had half the city council, and the Co-Operative Commonwealth Federation, the forerunner of the NDP, was formed at a convention in Calgary."

The ensuing decades, however, chipped



privatizing many public sector jobs. One of the most significant events in union history in the province was the laundry workers' strike in 1995, Finkel says.

According to *Working People in Alberta: A History*, authored by Finkel and contributors, the laundry workers had taken a 28 per cent pay cut in the previous round of bargaining before being informed that their jobs were now being privatized to K-Bro Linens. The government had gone too far. Over the next ten days, the laundry workers' wildcat strike spread like wildfire, escalating to an estimated 2,500 workers across six hospitals and nine nursing homes. "It scared Premier Klein," Finkel says.

"When the Calgary laundry workers stood up to Klein and received so much public support, Klein made concessions and then the cuts stopped. He realized he had reached the limit."

Finkel acknowledges the rough road organized labour has had in Calgary and the province, surviving decades of anti-union governments.

"Trade unions fought to have workers treated like equal human beings to owners and employers," he says. "It's the strife that makes it a proud history."

away at organized labour — primarily a result of government anti-union policy and legislation, Finkel says. After oil was discovered in large quantities in Alberta in the 1940s, the government wanted to make the province enticing to foreign investors.

"We've probably had the most anti-union legislation in the country," he says. "Premier

Ernest Manning (and the Social Credit government) wanted to make it attractive for American oil barons to come to Canada, and wanted to provide a low tax environment and a non-trade union environment."

Bookending the century, however, the 1990s saw a resurgence of organized labour might after Premier Ralph Klein's government began

Leadership, integrity, safety: all part of being a boilermaker

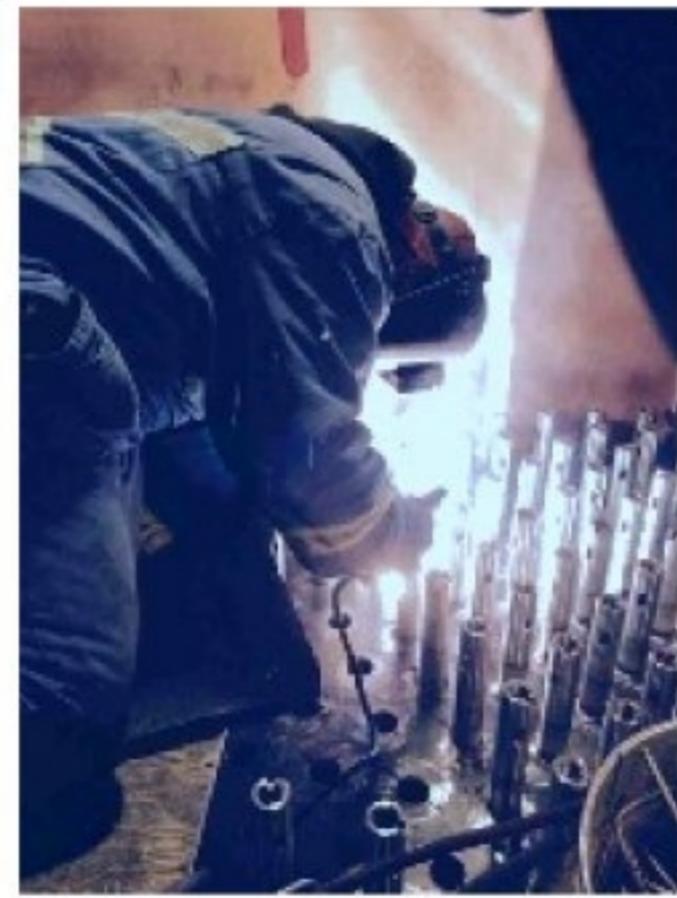
Boilermakers take their work seriously. They "subscribe to the creed" of honour, respect and service; they "live by the code" of leadership, integrity and safety. At this point you may be wondering — what is a boilermaker exactly?

"A boilermaker's purpose is to provide service to heavy industry through the application of a highly specialized skill set in the areas of pressure vessels, power generation, oil and gas, nuclear, pulp and paper, to name a few," says Dean Milton, business manager and secretary treasurer of Local Lodge 146. In other words: behind every major industrial operation, stands a team of boilermakers.

Boilermakers Lodge 146 is the union tasked with securing safe, reliable and fair employment for these workers since 1948. Training courses, job boards, improved health benefits, representation, bargaining and negotiating all help make this tough job a lifelong and satisfying calling.

"I have never heard anyone say that becoming a Boilermaker (member) has not improved their life," Milton says. "That includes many who have come to us with university degrees."

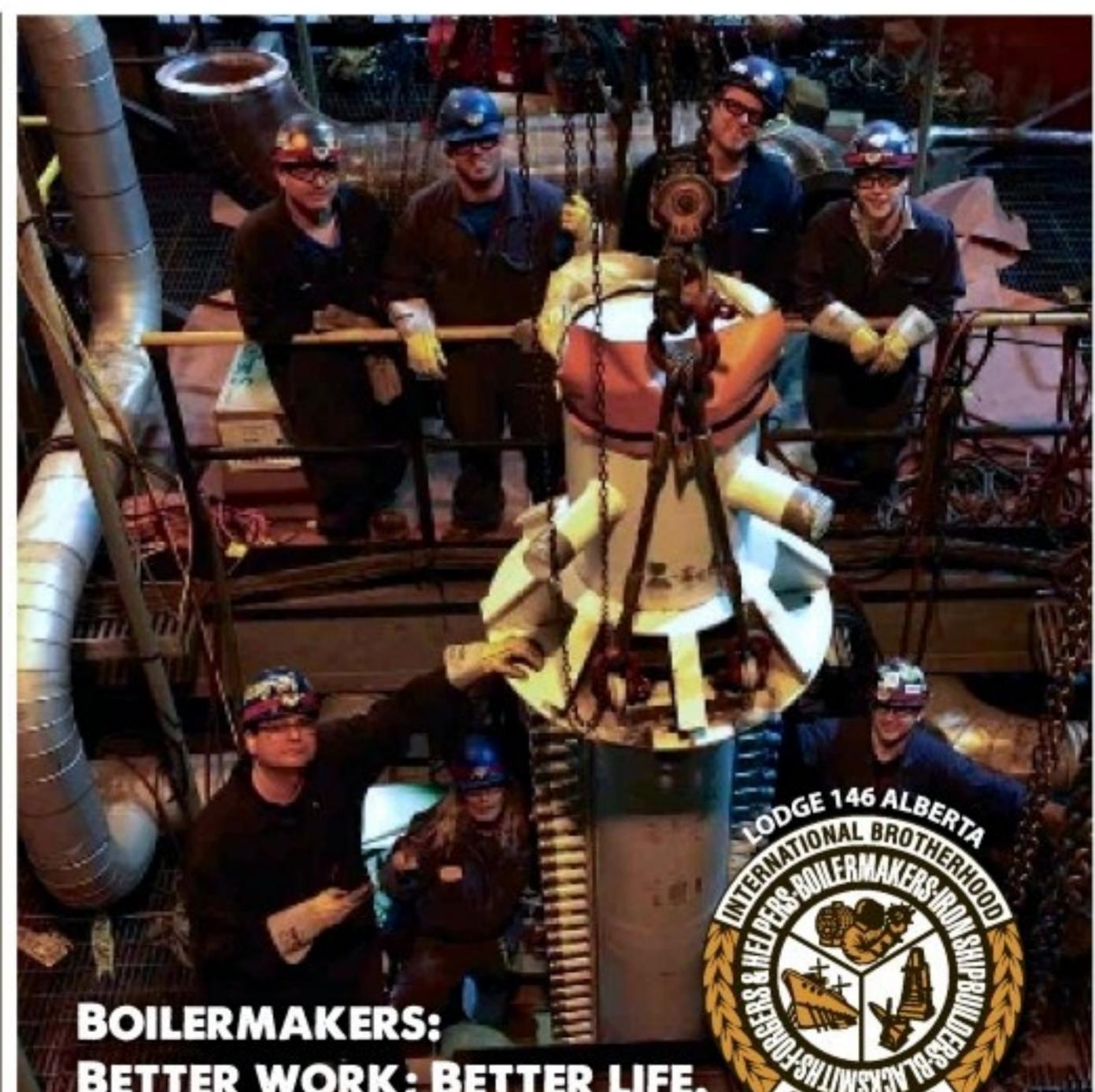
Acknowledging the current "uncertainty" due to the province's downturn in the oil



CONTRIBUTED

and gas industry, Milton says the union is ultimately optimistic.

"Boilermakers 146 has a positive view of the future," he says. "We believe the economy of Alberta will recover and our members will play an integral role in that process." Visit boilermakers.ca for more information.



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Striving for dignity, respect, and safety for all workers

The United Food & Commercial Workers Union, Local 401 is proud to have an incredibly diverse membership.

With nearly 27,000 members across the province of Alberta, the membership consists of men and women who work in a broad range of industries and sectors. Primarily working in retail food sales and production, 401's hard-working members also work in the healthcare, gaming, distilling, oil and gas, hospitality, and warehousing sectors.

In the oftentimes challenging political and economic climate of Alberta, they are proud of the many union contracts having been negotiated with dozens of different employers, many of which include trendsetting contract language unique to the particular industry those contracts cover. 401 President Douglas O'Halloran is quick to point out, however, that "none of this could be achieved without the dedication and strength of the members at each of these workplaces."

The history of UFCW 401 is a progressive one that has not forgotten its rebel soul. O'Halloran boasts, "our foundation is built on our members' ongoing struggle for fairness, equality, and social justice — collectively striving for dignity, respect, and safety for all workers."



CONTRIBUTED

UFCW 401's commitment encompasses these core principles:

Provide the best workplace representation through superior servicing, union contracts and expedited problem resolution;

Improve job security and strengthen membership through organizing as well as engaging young workers in union activities to encourage our future leaders;

Provide and promote an inclusive environ-

ment, reflecting the diversity of the membership, based on the respect and dignity of its members;

Continue the fight for the fair and equal treatment of women, First Nations, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, disabled and disadvantaged, racialized people, and other human rights issues;

Provide new services, benefits and educational opportunities to improve working conditions and provide members and their families with a better quality of life;

Develop strong and meaningful links with the communities in which 401 members are active;

Advocate for human rights and workers' rights through political action at all levels of government and within the global community;

Empower members, stewards, staff, and officers with practical knowledge, resources and motivation to carry out the goals and objectives of the local union. Never forget the critical role of long-term activists and the wisdom and spirit they bring to the 401's collective actions.

"UFCW 401 is a union you can count on to create positive change in your communities and workplaces, and represent your interests," O'Halloran concludes.



FAIRNESS, WAGES, BENEFITS, YOUR VOICE AT WORK

UFCW Local 401 is the largest private sector union in the province. With our size comes diversity. We represent workers of all ages, all backgrounds in a wide variety of workplaces, such as retail food including warehousing and processing, oil and gas, restaurant, healthcare and meatpacking just to name a few. We are not afraid to take on the big issues and do what it takes to improve the lives of the members we serve. We are proud of our 50 year history of representing the men and women who work in Alberta to keep it moving.



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STRENGTH, AND SAFETY, IN NUMBERS

Unions are based on the concept that there's strength in numbers, but there's safety in numbers too — especially during challenging times. When the going gets tough, the tough get organized.

Considering the current slowdown in Alberta's economy, Scott Crichton, assistant business manager of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) 424, says unions still prove their value: "Whether you are a contractor or a worker, there has never been a better time to join the IBEW."

"The benefits of being in a union during an economic downturn is that your pension and benefits are not tied to one employer," he says.

"The other benefit is training — the union's training courses are provided at zero cost to the members or the government."

These "top notch" training programs are a key component to IBEW 424's success, Crichton says, and the courses aren't offered at the province's technical schools. As economies mature and technology evolves, electrical workers have to adapt to changing realities and produce the same quality work.

He points out that change is nothing new for IBEW 424 — the union has a long history in the province, starting many generations ago and helping build Alberta into the province it is today.

"Long before the first oil sands projects, the IBEW 424 was founded in 1928 by 11 CN rail workers," Crichton says. "Now, 88 years later, IBEW 424 has grown to 8,400 members from across Alberta in a variety of industries — from maintenance and construction to alternative energy."

Continuing that legacy, the IBEW 424 positions itself to keep pace with Alberta's rapidly developing future. One thing is clear — energy and fuel sources are diversifying.

"Solar and electrical vehicle charging station courses are important because we have learned from IBEW locals in the U.S. that it has created large amounts of employment for their members down there," he says.

"With the carbon levy coming into effect Jan. 1, we can be assured that those same opportunities will be coming to Alberta in the near future."

Visit ibew424.net for more information.



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SUPPORTING FIREFIGHTERS WITH SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

We might think we're familiar with a firefighter's tools — fire truck, suit and mask, hydrant and hose — but we likely would overlook one thing that sometimes stands between life and death: knowledge.

Firefighting is a science and our knowledge of the best ways to battle and survive is evolving, says Mike Carter, president of Calgary Firefighters Association, which is part of the International Association of Fire Fighters.

The IAFF — an umbrella group that represents more than 300,000 firefighters and paramedics in Canada and the U.S. — partners with the National Institute of Standards and Technology to study fire dynamics and develop fire research, Carter says.

"Through that research, we're able to make sure that the service we're providing to citizens is on the cutting edge," he says. "Materials, tactics, manpower... What do we need? What do we not need? By doing that, we're able to learn what systems will help keep the public safe."

One quick example of such a life-saving tip? Closing your bedroom door at night.

"There's scientific data behind it — closing your door at night will increase the time for us to get there and get you to safety," Carter says. "Without that barrier, victims can succumb to smoke in under eight minutes; if you close the door, the data shows you can be in a survivable environment for over 20 minutes."

"These are some of things we can prove because we assist with funding these studies."

The Association's research endeavours — and continuous efforts to improve and update procedures — are entirely voluntary, Carter says. "With the changes in building materials and furnishings, we always have to keep evaluating our methodology and tactics to keep our members and the public safe."

While the well-being of the citizens they serve is paramount, firefighters themselves are regularly exposed to danger and harm.



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Carter says the association's priorities also include support for PTSD and mental health, addressing the high cancer rates in members and ensuring appropriate funding for their services.

"We got into this profession to help

people," he says. "Now we're ensuring that the programs are in place to help our members live happy and healthy lives well into retirement."

Visit calgaryfirefighters.org for more information.



www.calgaryfirefighters.org

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A CENTURY OF PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY



metro SPORTS

The Canadian Olympic Committee has partnered with the creative agency that developed the Toronto Raptors' "We The North" campaign

Leafs burned in first minute

NHL

Early Flames goals kill off Toronto as Johnson shines

Chad Johnson made 39 saves and Freddie Hamilton and Kris Versteeg scored in the opening minute of the game as the Calgary Flames beat the Toronto Maple Leafs 3-0 on Wednesday.

Hamilton one-timed a centring pass from Micheal Ferland past Jhonas Enroth high on the glove side for his first of the season 19 seconds in. Thirty seconds later, Versteeg buried his third of the year. Sean Monahan was initially stopped from the slot but Enroth kicked the rebound onto Versteeg's tape.

It was the first time Calgary had scored twice in the opening minute of a game since Mar. 11, 1987 against the Hartford Whalers. The last time any NHL team did that was Philadelphia against the New York Islanders on April 9, 2011.

Johnson has started eight of the last 10 games, going 6-2-0 with a 1.50 goals-against average, a .951 save percentage and a career-best three shutouts.

Matt Stajan also scored for Calgary (11-13-2), which won for just the fourth time at home (4-7-0). The Flames improved to 6-3-1 in their last 10.

Toronto (10-9-4) has split the opening two games of its Western Canada road trip.



Flames goalie Chad Johnson and Auston Matthews of the Leafs come face to face on Wednesday night.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/LARRY MACDOUGAL

which wraps up Saturday night in Vancouver. The Leafs have lost 10 of their last 11 games in Calgary.

Johnson had to make 14 saves in a hectic third period, including throwing up his glove to deny Mitch Marner on a breakaway.

Johnson also dealt with the

MONDAY in Calgary

3	0
FLAMES	LEAFS

Leafs' pressure against the Flames 30th-ranked penalty

kill late in the second period, making five stops in the two-minute barrage to keep it 3-0.

Enroth was making only his fourth start of the season after Frederik Andersen's 28-save win Tuesday night in Edmonton.

Enroth, who finished with 26 saves, is 0-3-1.

Leading 2-0, Calgary surged in front 3-0 at 15:49 of the first when a hard centring pass from the team leading scorer Michael Frolik was re-directed in by Stajan in front.

The Flames entered the night having scored 27 goals in their last 16 games.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Cespedes, Mets make deal official

Yoenis Cespedes and the New York Mets have finalized a \$110-million, four-year contract.

Cespedes and the team were to discuss the deal at a news conference Wednesday at Citi Field.

A two-time all-star, Cespedes gets \$22.5 million in 2017, \$29 million in each of the following two seasons and \$29.5 million in 2020.

The 31-year-old outfielder receives a full no-trade provision as part of the agreement, the largest for a free agent thus



Yoenis Cespedes
GETTY IMAGES

far this off-season. The deal's \$27.5-million average annual value ties former Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez for the second-highest among position players, trailing only Miguel Cabrera's \$29.2 million with Detroit.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Source: Baseball players, owners make labour deal

A person familiar with the negotiations tells The Associated Press negotiators for baseball players and owners have a verbal agreement on a five-year labour contract.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity Wednesday because the sides were still putting the deal in writing. They hoped to have a signed memorandum of understanding later Wednesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MMA

GSP among stars who launch guild

Former UFC champions Georges St. Pierre, Cain Velasquez and T.J. Dillashaw have joined an attempt to form a mixed martial arts fighters association.

Current UFC fighters Donald (Cowboy) Cerrone and Tim Kennedy also announced their participation Wednesday in an organizing effort led by fighters and joined by Bjorn Rebney, the former CEO of Bellator.

The Mixed Martial Arts Athletes Association is the latest attempt to organize fighters in

RIVALS

Three of the involved fighters are represented by Creative Artists Agency, a rival of the WME-IMG conglomerate which bought the UFC earlier this year.

a famously individualistic sport into a collective bargaining unit.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHAPECOENSE

'We will rebuild this club'

Six players, a handful of support staff, and deep sorrow are all that remain of Brazil's Chapecoense soccer club.

They will still try to play again. Because they know that's what their 19 teammates who died when a charter plane ripped into an Andean mountainside would want them to do.

"In the memory of those who died and to honour their families, we will rebuild this club from scratch so it is even stronger," club director and local businessman Cecilio Hans said. "We had material assets and human assets. Now we've lost nearly all of our human assets."

3

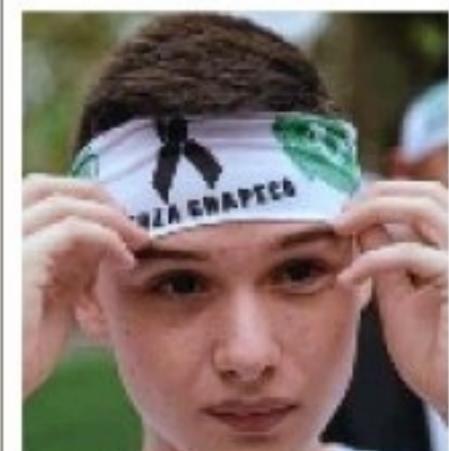
Only three players survived the crash, and all are recovering at a hospital in Colombia.

Other clubs in Brazil's top league are offering to loan players to Chapecoense, with a proposal that the modest club in deep southern Brazil is guaranteed to stay in the top division for the next three years.

"The club will rebuild, I am sure," said Walter Feldman, secretary general of the Brazilian Football Confederation. "Eight clubs have already called me to offer concrete, material solidarity. We are studying ways to best help."

Monday's crash occurred as the team was on its way to the two-game final of the Copa Sudamericana — the No. 2 tournament on the continent.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A boy takes part in a tribute to the victims in Medellin, Colombia, on Wednesday.

RAUL ARBOLEDA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

A wet and wild comeback

MLS CUP PLAYOFFS

TFC to host title match after history-making win over rivals

Substitutes Benoit Cheyrou and Tosaint Ricketts scored two minutes apart in extra time to send Toronto FC to the MLS Cup final with a 5-2 win on the night and a wild 7-5 aggregate victory over the Montreal Impact.

It took extra time and 12 goals to decide a scintillating two-legged Eastern Conference final. Toronto will host the Seattle Sounders on Dec. 10 in the MLS championship game, becoming the first Canadian team to go for the title.

Toronto trailed 3-2 after Game 1 in Montreal and had to come back the hard way after the Impact scored first. And when Toronto responded, Montreal came back in a heavyweight battle on Wednesday



TFC WINS 7-5 ON AGGREGATE

Tied 5-5 on aggregate, Cheyrou scored on a header in the 98th minute, just one minute after entering the game, when he knocked in a Steven Beitashour cross. Then Jozy Altidore outmuscled a couple of defenders to send in a cross that Ricketts, beating two more defenders to the ball, swept

in.

The Toronto FC faithful, who had been rained on most of the night, started chanting "This is our house."

The Toronto bench came flying onto the field after the final whistle to celebrate the historic win as confetti flew from the



Toronto FC captain Michael Bradley lifts the MLS Eastern Conference championship trophy in Toronto. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

rafters. The players then went to celebrate in front of the south-stand fans before the Eastern Conference cup presentation.

Dominic Oduro opened the scoring in the 24th minute for Montreal, a goal that meant Toronto had to score twice.

Armando Cooper and Altidore did just that before the

first half was over, tying the aggregate score at 4-4 with an away goals edge to Toronto.

But Impact danger-man Ignacio Piatti made it 2-2 — and 5-4 on aggregate — in the 53rd minute after substitute Johan Venegas found him behind the defence. The ball bounced off either Piatti or defender Nick

Hagglund, leaving Toronto fans to watch in pain as it trickled slowly into the net.

Hagglund restored order with a superb header in the 68th minute to make it 3-2 on the night and 5-5 on aggregate. It came off a short corner with Justin Morrow delivering the cross.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SOCCER

Young Zidane shines in debut

Enzo Zidane made his dad proud on Wednesday, scoring a goal on his competitive debut for Real Madrid in the Copa del Rey.

Zinedine Zidane, the coach, gave his 21-year-old son a chance and he took full advantage, finding the net with a nice right-footed shot from the edge of the area to help Madrid rout third-division club Cultural Leonesa 6-1 and secure a spot in the round of 16.

"It's a dream to debut with Real Madrid and score a goal," Enzo Zidane said. "And I'm happy that it happened at the Bernabeu and with a victory."

The crowd at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium loudly chanted Enzo's name after his goal. The youngster said the game jersey would go to his father for all his support through the years.

"I'm happy for Enzo as a father and as a coach," Zidane said. "I'm happy for his goal and for what he did during the game. When I get home, I'm sure I'll have some words for him. But right now, as a coach, I'm happy for all the players."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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NFL

Dolphins release player after arrest

Miami Dolphins reserve defensive tackle Leon Orr was cut during practice Wednesday when the team learned of his arrest on marijuana charges near Naples, Fla.

Orr was charged Tuesday afternoon with misdemeanour marijuana possession and felony possession of a controlled substance. He was released on \$7,000 bail.

Dolphins players had Tuesday off. Coach Adam Gase said the

team learned about the arrest during practice Wednesday, and Orr was waived before the workout ended.

The Dolphins (7-4) have won six games in a row to join the playoff race.

Deputies stopped Orr on eastbound Interstate 75 and a search of his BMW turned up marijuana wax and a substance labeled Kush Syrup, a Collier County Sheriff's Office arrest report said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Siemian at Broncos practice in walking boot

This is not what Trevor Siemian had in mind when he said he wanted to follow in Peyton Manning's footsteps.

The Broncos quarterback was placed in a walking boot Wednesday and held out of practice after spraining his left foot in Denver's 30-27 overtime loss to Kansas City on Sunday night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA postpones game due to condensation on court

A scheduled game between the Sacramento Kings and Philadelphia 76ers was postponed Wednesday

night by the NBA because of condensation on the court at the Wells Fargo Center.

A makeup date was not immediately announced.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Raptors take advantage of short-handed Grizzlies

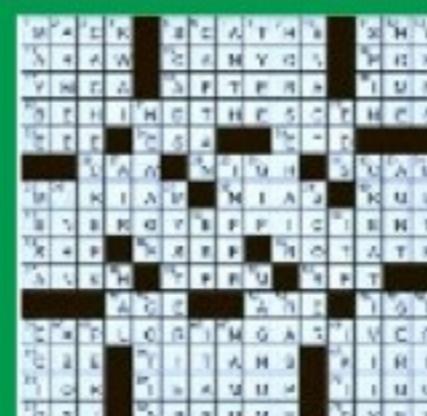
Kyle Lowry poured in 29 points and the Toronto Raptors overcame 18 turnovers for a 120-105 win over the short-handed Memphis Grizzlies on Wednesday night.

DeMar DeRozan added 24 points and Patrick Patterson had 14 points and 13 rebounds for the Raptors (12-6). THE CANADIAN PRESS

YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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1	5	7	9	4	6	3	2	8
4	3	9	1	8	2	5	6	7
6	8	2	3	7	5	1	4	9
8	7	5	6	9	1	4	3	2
3	2	4	7	5	8	6	9	1
9	6	1	2	3	4	8	7	5
2	1	3	8	6	9	7	5	4
5	9	6	4	1	7	2	8	3
7	4	8	5	2	3	9	1	6

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MAKE IT TONIGHT

Fragrant One Pot Sweet Potato and Arugula Pasta

PHOTO: MAYA VISNEY

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

The peppery arugula and woody rosemary are the perfect match for sweet potato in this dish designed for fall.

Ready in 30 minutes
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients

- 500 grams penne pasta
- 8 cups baby arugula
- 1 sweet potato, diced into small cubes
- 4 garlic cloves, thinly sliced
- 1 shallot, cut into thinly sliced
- 1 sprig of rosemary
- 3 Tbsp of olive oil, plus 1 for garnish

- 1 Tbsp salt
- 6 cups water
- 1/2 cup grated Asiago or Parmesan cheese
- Salt and pepper to taste

Directions

1. Combine penne, arugula, sweet potato, garlic, shallot, rosemary, 2 Tbsp oil, salt and water in a stock pot. Bring to boil over high heat. Cook, stirring pasta frequently, until pasta is cooked al dente and water is nearly evaporated, about 10 minutes.

2. Remove pot from heat and take out the rosemary stem. Stir in the last tablespoon of oil, cheese and season with salt and pepper to taste. Serve with another sprinkle of cheese.

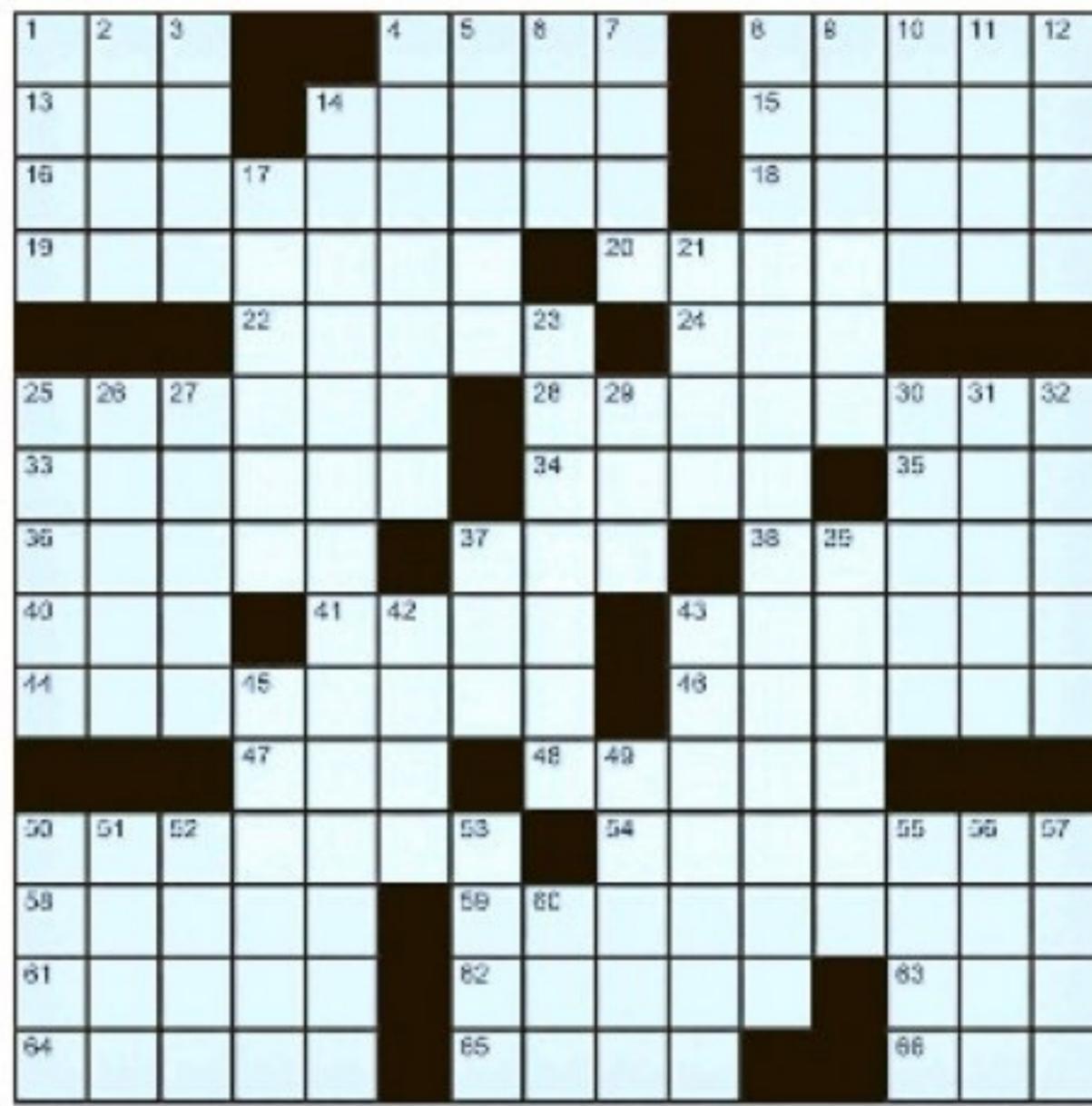
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. River for Calgary
4. Biblical land where Moses was buried
8. Reads 'em and does this
13. A famous Charlotte
14. H.H. (British author whose pen name was Saki)
15. Peculiarly
16. Alberta hamlet east of Edmonton
18. -sized (Printer paper selection)
19. Main meaning
20. Canadian restaurant chain; or, Mr. Grammer's of "Frasier"
22. Fanatic sects
24. Sure-footed animal
25. Conniver's creation
28. NY, ME and CA, e.g.: 2 wds.
33. Guided
34. Mark Antony's love, to pals
35. " __ little tea-pot..."
36. Swiss-peaks related
37. Cavemen yrs.
38. Canadian ski legend Ms. Greene
40. Needs-to-be-sewn site
41. Spandau Ballet hit
43. Posh couch
44. Worker's wish: 2 wds.
46. Canyon communicator
47. Municipal council member, e.g.
48. Tractor com-



pany, John __
50. 1990s MTV personality Daisy
54. Ms. Newton of "The Pursuit of Happiness" (2006)
58. Soap actress Ms. Slezak
59. Powerview-__ Manitoba

61. Mr. Sedaka's
62. Not connected
63. Dixie Cups song, when doubled
64. Star Trek: Father of Mr. Spock
65. Rhinoplasty location
66. __ in Xylophone

DOWN
1. Hillside
2. Rows
3. Gets hitched
4. Built like a body-builder
5. Commencement
6. 1920 T.S. Eliot volume of poetry,
— Vos Prec

7. Strike
8. Frankenstein creator formally, Mary __ Shelley (b.1797 - d.1851)
55. Gladiator's 559
56. Ms. Gruning of "Casablanca" (1942)
57. Those, in Spanish
60. Company's stock mkt. debut

*** IT'S ALL IN THE STARS** Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is a fabulous day to schmooze with others. Enjoy your interactions with groups and friends, as well as partners and those who are close to you. Laugh it up!

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Today you make a great impression on bosses, parents, VIPs and anyone in a position of authority (including the police). Your ambition is strong, and so is your confidence.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Do whatever you can to take a vacation or find a change of scenery, because you need this. Today you want adventure, thrills and a chance to learn something new and exciting!

Cancer June 22 - July 23
This is an excellent day to discuss shared property, taxes, debt and inheritances, because quite likely you will end up laughing all the way to the bank.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Your interactions with others are positive and dynamic today, primarily because you have lots of energy. Because enthusiasm is always contagious, people are pumped to be in your presence.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You will get a lot done at work today because you are energetic, focused and upbeat. A happy mind that is ready to work is unstoppable!

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Accept all invitations to party, because © 2016 King Features Syndicate, Inc. today is a wonderful, social day for you. Enjoy the arts, sports events, playful times with children and romantic liaisons.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Increased activity and chaos on the home front might be a challenge. However, today you have the energy to pull your act together at home. Do what you can.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You will be successful in all your communication. This is great news for those of you who sell, market, teach, act or write for a living.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
This is a moneymaking day for you! Trust your moneymaking ideas. All of your financial negotiations will benefit you.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Fiery Mars is in your sign today, dancing with lucky Jupiter. This gives you lots of positive get up and go! It's a great day for athletics and outdoor activities.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Secret liaisons will be exciting today. (This includes private love affairs.) You're happy to work alone today.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

	4	7	3	8
6				4
3		9		5
7		8	2	
5				7
	9		6	4
8		6	7	
	3			9
6	1	8	5	

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Great health care. "Most Efficient Health Care 2014," Bloomberg magazine ranked Ecuador No. 13 in the world, while Canada ranked 21st.

Quality, affordable health care is available throughout the country. You can easily see a doctor trained in North America within less than an hour in most of the clinics.

Ideal climate. Temperatures along the coast average 25°C year-round, without the extreme wet seasons common to the tropics. Due to Ecuador's location at the equator, hurricanes are nonexistent. The warm water offers pleasant bathing all year round.

Stability. Ecuador is amongst the safest countries in Latin America and the currency is the US dollar. Most expats who relocate to Ecuador can obtain permanent residency status in just nine months.

Incredible sights. With UNESCO cities, endless sandy beaches, Amazon rainforests, the Andes and the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador is one of the most bio-diverse and eco-responsible places on the planet.

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HolaEcuador is working on a 130-acre gated community overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Already 1,400 of the 1,700 land lots have been sold and construction is well underway. Residents enjoy lush parks and a beautiful outdoor sports facility including pools and tennis courts, as well as 12 kilometres of pristine beach right in front of the property.

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- Charlene and kids, Toronto, 2016

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- Brenda and Dennis, Calgary, 2016

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- Dennis, Montreal, 2016



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